

PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC APPROVES EXPANDED LOCAL CALLING PLAN FOR THE GREENWOOD EXCHANGE

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an agreement which will move the Greenwood exchange from a Tier 3 exchange to a Tier 2 exchange under the Kansas City Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) plan.

The agreement approved by the Commission was filed by the Office of the Public Counsel, Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a AT&T Missouri and the Staff of the Public Service Commission. The agreement was reached as a result of negotiations conducted by the above parties.

The parties agreed that the Greenwood exchange will become a mandatory MCA exchange (Tier 2 exchange) in the Kansas City MCA. Under the agreement, customers in the Greenwood exchange will be able to call toll-free to all customers in those exchanges which make up the Kansas City MCA Principal Zone as well as Tiers 1, 2 and 3 exchanges. In addition, Greenwood exchange customers will be able to call toll-free all MCA subscribers in the Tier 4 and 5 exchanges.

"The record reflects that while some customers will be faced with a rate increase, those customers will benefit under the agreement from a greatly increased calling scope. In addition, customers outside of the Greenwood exchange which are subscribers to the MCA will also benefit from an increased calling scope," the Commission's order said.

Under the agreement, all residential customers in the Greenwood exchange will pay \$15.00 a month through two charges: \$8.79 for basic local service and \$6.21 for mandatory EAS (Extended Area Service) which allows for the expanded calling scope mentioned above. This will be a reduction of \$6.14 a month for a vast majority of AT&T Missouri's customers in the Greenwood exchange who currently pay \$21.14 a month through two charges: \$8.79 for basic local service and \$12.35 for optional MCA service.

As part of the agreement, all Greenwood exchange customers will be permitted to retain their current telephone numbers.

Background: The Office of the Public Counsel filed a request with the Commission seeking to modify the current Kansas City MCA plan. The Office of the Public Counsel stated the Greenwood exchange is part of the community of interest with not only the Kansas City metropolitan area, but it is within the same community of interest as Lee's Summit. They believed Greenwood and Lee's Summit should be within the same tier and have expanded toll-free calling within those exchanges.